

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 587

To amend title 10, United States Code, to prescribe alternative payment mechanisms for the payment of annual enrollment fees under the TRICARE program of the military health care system.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 13, 2001

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to prescribe alternative payment mechanisms for the payment of annual enrollment fees under the TRICARE program of the military health care system.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. PAYMENT MECHANISMS FOR TRICARE EN-**  
4 **ROLLMENT FEES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 55 of title 10, United  
6 States Code, is amended in section 1097a—

7 (1) by striking the section heading and insert-  
8 ing the following new section heading:

1 **“§ 1097a. TRICARE Program: enrollment and pay-**  
2 **ment options”;**

3 (2) by striking subsection (c);

4 (3) by redesignating subsections (d) through (f)  
5 as subsections (f) through (h), respectively; and

6 (4) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-  
7 lowing new subsections:

8 “(c) MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTION.—The Secretary of  
9 Defense shall permit persons who enroll in the TRICARE  
10 program to pay their annual enrollment fees on a monthly  
11 basis.

12 “(d) ALTERNATIVE PAYMENT MECHANISMS.—In ad-  
13 dition to existing methods by which an enrollee in the  
14 TRICARE program may pay enrollment fees, the Sec-  
15 retary of Defense shall establish mechanisms to provide  
16 for payment of enrollment fees using—

17 “(1) a deduction from military retired or re-  
18 tainer pay (or equivalent pay), in the case of a mem-  
19 ber or former member of the uniformed services en-  
20 titled to such pay who is an enrollee;

21 “(2) a deduction from monthly benefits under  
22 section 202 or 223 of the Social Security Act (42  
23 U.S.C. 402, 423), in the case of a person entitled to  
24 such benefits who is an enrollee; and

25 “(3) an electronic funds transfer from a check-  
26 ing or savings account designated by the enrollee.

1       “(e) COORDINATION OF DEDUCTION WITH OTHER  
2 AGENCIES.—The Secretary of Defense shall enter into an  
3 agreement with the Commissioner of Social Security and  
4 the Secretary of the Treasury to conduct the deduction  
5 mechanism authorized by subsection (d)(2) in the same  
6 manner as provided in section 1840(a) of the Social Secu-  
7 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395s(a)) for the monthly deduction  
8 of premiums for the medicare program.”.

9       (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-  
10 tions at the beginning of such chapter is amended striking  
11 the item relating to section 1097a and inserting the fol-  
12 lowing new item:

“1097a. TRICARE Program: enrollment and payment options.”.

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